GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4175
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2016
Safety in Schools
Kothapalli Smt. Geetha

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there were reports of students dying after falling into water harvesting tanks in Government/ private schools in the Country and if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;
(b) the details of the remedial steps taken by the Government to prevent such incidents in future including issuing necessary instructions to schools and enforcing the same; and
(c) the details of action taken by schools found to be violating the prescribed safety norms, school-wise?

Answer

MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)
(a) to (c) : The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has informed that one instance has been reported to the Board in last three years and the current year regarding student(s) dying after falling into water harvesting tanks in schools affiliated with the CBSE. The detail for the same is given below:

Sl. No.	State	No. of complaint
1	Delhi	01

The matter is subjudice and pending before the Hon'ble Delhi High Court.
State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have the direct responsibility to ensure safety of students in schools under their territorial control. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has issued guidelines in October, 2014 to State Governments for safety and security of school children, including preventive mechanisms and procedures required to be put in place in the schooling system alongwith relief and redressal strategies in case of any incident. Further, Subsections 1 and 2 of Section 17 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 states "No child shall be subjected to physical punishment or mental harassment. Whoever contravenes the provisions of sub-section (1) shall be liable to disciplinary action under the service rules applicable to such person." Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme, School Management Committees (SMCs) are trained especially on all aspects of safety and security of children in schools.
The CBSE has formulated and circulated detailed guidelines to its affiliated schools for safety of students in schools and prevention of accidents relating to school children. Rule 8.5 of the Affiliation Bye laws prescribes that "the School should scrupulously observe prescription from the Municipal Authority/District Collectorate/Transport Department regarding drinking water, fire safety and transport precautions in the school. A certificate from the Municipal/Fire/Transport Authority regarding sanitary conditions, water/fire/transport safety should be submitted along with the application. A fresh certificate regarding fulfilment of these requirements should be obtained and submitted to the Board every five years."